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PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Seeks Comments On THE DORNEY ROAD LANDFILL SUPERFUND SITE

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (DER) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are seeking comments on a report which outlines cleanup alternatives for the Dorney Road Landfill Superfund site in Upper Macungie Township, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. The report outlines cleanup alternatives for the landfill proper. A future report will outline cleanup alternatives for off-site groundwater.

The Dorney Road Landfill covers approximately 34 acres and is located in the southern end of Upper Macungie Township, one mile southwest of Breinigsville and 1.4 miles northeast of Mertzdown. From 1952 to 1966 the former iron ore pit was used as an open dump. From 1966 until 1978 a landfill was operated at the site. It accepted primarily municipal wastes; however, records indicate that industrial sludges, asbestos wastes and large quantities of batteries were deposited at the site. An investigation of the site and sampling studies revealed the presence of assorted volatile, semi-volatile and inorganic hazardous contaminants. The site was added to the Superfund National Priorities List in 1983.

A Feasibility Study (FS) was prepared under DER's direction to evaluate the site problems of contaminated soil, surface waters, and landfill wastes, and to develop and analyze the following remedial action cleanup alternatives:

- #1 — No action/minimal action. The existing waste will be left in place, site fencing installed, and deed restrictions placed on the property.
- #2 — Placement of a soil cover over the landfill. Existing ponds will be removed and the site regraded. Perimeter fencing will be installed and deed restrictions placed on the property.
- #3 — Installation of a multi-layer cap (landfill cover) and associated controls. Integral components of the landfill cap installation will include site regrading, methane gas venting, and water run-on/run-off controls. Perimeter fencing will be installed and deed restrictions placed on the property.
- #4 — Construction of an on-site Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)-approved landfill. All contaminated solid material detected during the Remedial Investigation would be excavated and placed in a lined landfill constructed on site.
- #5 — Excavation and on-site incineration of all contaminated material. Remaining ash will be placed in an on-site RCRA-approved landfill.

After extensive technical review and cost evaluation, DER and EPA are proposing Remedial Action Alternative #3 — Installation of a multi-layer landfill cap with associated controls, as the appropriate alternative for the Dorney Road site. An impermeable cap designed in accordance with Pennsylvania state standards will be constructed over the 34-acre site. It will consist of a 6-inch gravel layer to collect methane gas; 12 inches of clean earth fill as a foundation; a 60-mil synthetic cover; a synthetic drainage layer; and 3 feet of additional top soil. Also included in the alternative is the construction of a water diversion system to two sedimentation ponds of sufficient size to contain all on-site runoff from a 24-hour, 25-year rainfall. A passive methane gas venting system will be installed to control migration of gases. A site perimeter fence will be constructed.

The basis for recommending this alternative is:

- To decrease the potential for contact with contaminated soils, subsurface waste and surface waters.
- To prevent infiltration of surface waters, thus limiting the movement of contaminants into the groundwater.
- To lessen the potential hazards caused by the lateral migration of landfill gases by installing a gas venting system.

DER is seeking comments on the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Reports which are available for review, along with the Dorney Road Superfund file, at the Upper Macungie Township Building, Schantz & Grim Roads, Breinigsville, and the Parkland Community Library, 4422 Walbert Avenue, Allentown.

If requests for a public meeting on the reports are received, a meeting will be held on August 31, 1988, at 7:00 p.m. at the Upper Macungie Township Building. Requests for a meeting should be made by August 26 and should be directed to Frank Koller, DER Community Relations Coordinator, phone (717) 783-7816.

Comments on the RI/FS Reports should be made in writing on or before September 14, 1988, to: Timothy Alexander, Project Officer, PA Department of Environmental Resources, Harrisburg, Regional Office, One Ararat Blvd., Harrisburg, PA 17110.

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